SFChronicle SEP 18 1975

Re-firing Sirhan's Gun — A Difficulty Reported

Los Angeles

The criminologist who test-fired Sirhan Sirhan's gun said yesterday the bullets had so deteriorated over seven years that it may be difficult for experts to make new tests in the reexamination of the murder of Robert Kennedy.

Dewayne Wolfer, chief forensic chemist of the Los Angeles Police Department, examined a set of the bullets which he had used in comparison with those removed from the senator's body after he was shot in June, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel.

The surface of the bullets has so darkened, Wolfer said, that he was unable without a magnifying glass to make out the initials he had put on them with an electric pencil during his ballistics tests.

Wolfer testified at a Superior Court hearing drawing up intructions for a panel of seven independent experts who will re-fire the Sirhan gun and make comparison tests to determine whether a second gun might have been fired in the hotel pantry.

United Press